

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A developing device, comprising:
a stirring roller having stirring blades arranged to stir a developer;
a developing roller arranged to transfer the developer to an electrostatic latent image;
a control member arranged to control an amount of the developer transferred to the electrostatic latent image by the developing roller; and
a reflux plate arranged to flow back excess developer by controlling of said control member to said stirring roller,
wherein one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed in a vicinity of an outer periphery of said stirring roller, and part of the developer stirred by said stirring roller flies toward said reflux plate,
wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed above a fly peak point in a vertical direction of said one end portion of the developer provided by a rotation of said stirring roller,
wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed at a position where a plane passing through a rotation center axis of said stirring roller crosses said reflux plate at right angles, and

wherein an inclination angle of said reflux plate is larger than an angle of repose of the developer.

10. (Previously presented) The developing device as set forth in claim 9, wherein the developer includes magnetic powder having an average grain diameter of 65 μm or smaller and toner having an average grain diameter of 7.5 μm or smaller.

11. (Previously presented) The developing device as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

a developer supplying portion arranged to supply the developer,
wherein said stirring roller is disposed between said developer supplying portion and said developing roller, and

wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed in a vicinity of an outer periphery on said developer supplying portion side of said stirring roller.

12. (Previously presented) The developing device as set forth in claim 11, wherein the developer includes magnetic powder having an average grain diameter of 65 μm or smaller and toner having an average grain diameter of 7.5 μm or smaller.

13. (Previously presented) An image forming device, comprising:
a developing device arranged to develop an electrostatic latent image
including:
a stirring roller having stirring blades arranged to stir a developer;
a developing roller arranged to transfer the developer to an electrostatic
latent image;
a control member arranged to control an amount of the developer
transferred to the electrostatic latent image by the developing roller; and
a reflux plate arranged to flow back excess developer by controlling of
said control member to said stirring roller,
wherein one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed in a vicinity of an
outer periphery of said stirring roller, and part of the developer stirred by said
stirring roller flies toward said reflux plate; and
an image forming unit arranged to form on a sheet an image developed
by said developing device,
wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed above a fly
peak point in a vertical direction of said one end portion of the developer
provided by a rotation of said stirring roller,
wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed at a position
where a plane passing through a rotation center axis of said stirring roller
crosses said reflux plate at right angles, and

wherein an inclination angle of said reflux plate is larger than an angle of repose of the developer.

14. (Previously presented) The image forming device as set forth in claim 13, wherein the developer includes magnetic powder having an average grain diameter of 65 μm or smaller and toner having an average grain diameter of 7.5 μm or smaller.

15. (Previously presented) The image forming device as set forth in claim 13,

wherein said developing device further includes a developer supplying portion arranged to supply the developer,

wherein said stirring roller is disposed between said developer supplying portion and said developing roller, and

wherein said one end portion of said reflux plate is disposed in a vicinity of an outer periphery on said developer supplying portion side of said stirring roller.

16. (Previously presented) The image forming device as set forth in claim 15, wherein the developer includes magnetic powder having an average grain diameter of 65 μm or smaller and toner having an average grain diameter of 7.5 μm or smaller.

17. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

a scraping member physically attached to said reflux plate at a vicinity of said reflux plate disposed of an outer periphery of said developing roller, wherein said scraping member faces said developing member.

18. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 17, wherein said scraping member is integrally formed with said reflux plate.

19. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 17, wherein a gap (G2) exists between said scraping member and said developing roller.

20. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 19, wherein the gap G2 is a second gap, wherein a first gap (G1) exists between said control member and said developing roller, and wherein a relationship $G1 < G2$ holds true.

21. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 20, wherein said developing roller comprises:

a plurality of bar magnets having rectangular cross sections disposed in a radial manner, and

a non-magnetic sleeve fitted outside of said plurality of bar magnets,
wherein the second gap G2 is a minimum gap between said scraping member and said non-magnetic sleeve,
wherein one of the plurality of bar magnets faces the second gap G2, and
wherein a relationship $G1 < G2 \leq 0.8 Dm$ holds true, where Dm is a width of said bar magnet facing the second gap G2.

22. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 21, wherein a pole center axis of said bar magnet facing the second gap G2 is displaced by a predetermined angle relative a position "a" of said scraping member, the position "a" being a position where the second gap G2 is measured and being a position of minimum separation between said scraping member and said developing roller.

23. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 22, wherein the predetermined angle is substantially 1.5° .

24. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 21, wherein an amount of the developer (M1) transferred from the first gap G1 and an amount of the developer (M2) transferred from the second gap G2 are set up such that a relationship $M2 > (M1/G1)G2$ holds true.

25. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 9,
wherein said developing roller comprises:
a plurality of bar magnets having rectangular cross sections disposed in
a radial manner in a non-rotating magnetic roller, and
a rotating non-magnetic sleeve fitted outside of said non-rotating
magnetic roller, and
wherein each bar magnet has a single magnetic pole of either N or S.

26. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 25, further
comprising:
a scraping member physically attached to said reflux plate at a vicinity of
said reflux plate disposed of an outer periphery of said developing roller; and
a photo sensitive drum arranged for developing a latent image,
wherein one of said plurality of bar magnets (N1) faces said photo
sensitive drum and another one of said plurality of bar magnets (N2) of same
magnetic polarity faces said scraping member.

27. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 26, wherein the
magnetic pole N1 of the bar magnet facing the photo sensitive drum is
displaced by a predetermined angle relative to a straight line passing through a
center of said photo sensitive drum and said developing roller.

28. (NEW) The developing device as set forth in claim 22, wherein the predetermined angle is substantially 3.0°.